

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MBABAN 00232 271637Z

ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00
DHA-02 ORM-02 AID-05 CU-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
/072 W

-----271641Z 069820 /44

O P 271400Z JAN 77

FM AMEMBASSY MBABANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1040

INFO AMEMBASSY GABORONE PRIORITY

USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L MBABANE 0232

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SREF, WZ

SUBJECT: SPECIAL ASSISTANCE FOR SOUTHERN AFRICA REFUGEES

REFS: (A) STATE 17570 (B) MBABANE 0036

INFO CONTAINED REF (B) REMAINS CURRENT EXCEPT FOR FOLLOWING,
WHICH KEYED TO PARA 2 REF (A):

A. AFTER AIRLIFT TO TANZANIA OF ABOUT FIFTY REFUGEE STUDENTS
IN THIRD WEEK OF JANUARY, ABOUT FIFTY SOUTH AFRICAN
REFUGEE STUDENTS REMAIN IN SWAZILAND. INFLUX ESTIMATED
NOW AT ABOUT SEVEN EACH WEEK AND EXPECTED TO STAY AT
THAT LEVEL UNTIL NEXT SERIOUS RACIAL DISTURBANCE IN SOUTH
AFRICA.

B. REFUGEES ARE ALL RECENT ARRIVALS WHO CAME AFTER SOWETO
RIOTS; NO "LONG-TERM RESIDENT" REFUGEES. REFUGEE PROFILE
REMAINS AS REPORTED PARA 1 REF (B).

C. SEE PARA 3 REF (B) FOR LOCAL AND INTERNATIONAL (UNHCR)
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ASSISTANCE.

D. EMBASSY HAS RECEIVED NO REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE.
UNHCR/BLS REPRESENTATIVE INDICATED RECENTLY THAT
UNHCR SEEMS ABLE HANDLE SMALL NUMBER OF REFUGEES IN
SWAZILAND WITHOUT US BILATERAL ASSISTANCE. EMBASSY
BELIEVES, HOWEVER, THAT USG SHOULD BE PREPARED TO FUND

EDUCATIONAL AND TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES (BOTH AT HIGH SCHOOL LEVEL AND BEYOND, AND BOTH IN US AND AFRICA), DEPENDING ON STUDENTS' QUALIFICATIONS, BACKGROUND, AND POTENTIAL FOR SERVICE IN MAJORITY-RULED SOUTH AFRICA.

E. SEE PARA 4 OF REF (B) ON INTERNATIONAL (UNHCR) ASSISTANCE. NO PRIVATE VOLUNTARY AGENCY ACTIVITY IN THIS FIELD, TO BEST OF EMBASSY'S KNOWLEDGE.

F. EMBASSY PERCEIVES NO SUBSTANTIAL ASSISTANCE GAP IN SWAZILAND. WISH RESTATE EMBASSY'S POSITION IN PARA 4 REF (B), HOWEVER, THAT WE SHOULD ANTICIPATE DAY WHEN SWAZILAND WILL BECOME IMPORTANT REFUGEE CENTER. WITH ONLY HALF MILLION, LARGELY HOMOGENEOUS, POPULATION OF ITS OWN, SWAZILAND LIKELY REACT STRONGLY TO MAJOR REFUGEE INFLUX. UNHCR SHOULD THEREFORE NOT WAIT UNTIL LAST MINUTE TO ESTABLISH RESIDENT REPRESENTATION IN SWAZILAND. USG POSITION AT PRESENT STAGE MIGHT BE TO ENCOURAGE UNHCR KEEP OPEN MIND ON QUESTION OF SUCH RESIDENT REPRESENTATION, SUGGESTING ONE OR MORE FUNDING-RELIEF PROPOSALS MENTIONED IN PARA 4 REF (B).
WACHOB

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Message Attributes

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Concepts: REFUGEE RELIEF
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 27-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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